



**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
State Fire Marshal Division**

STATEMENT OF POLICY

Policy #: INS-03 (2007)	Subject of Policy: Interpretation of Important Building		
Reviewed and Approved By: Jerry Rosendahl	Title: State Fire Marshal	Effective Date: 11/1/1999	Revised Date: July 10, 2007

APPLIES TO:

All Inspection Personnel, Inspection Supervisors, Code/Plans Specialists.

PURPOSE:

To provide for uniform application of provisions relating to the definition of “important building” in NFPA 58 (04) Table 6.3.1.

POLICY:

SECTION 1 — INTERPRETATION OF IMPORTANT BUILDING

For the evaluation of separation distances for aboveground LP tanks, a building can be defined as important for a number of reasons:

1. Replacement value.
2. Human occupancy and/or the value of the building contents.
3. Maintenance of production due to the equipment or business records present.
4. Effect on the leak and fire control activities by firefighters.
5. Effect of a building fire on the tank.

If after a review it is determined that one of the five reasons above would apply, then the building is considered important and the separation distances of NFPA 58 (04) Table 6.3.1 shall be required.